

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Railroad construction work in East Germany of priority importance, such as the construction of the new switching yard at Cottbus and projects in Guben and Goerlitz, cannot be completed in the foreseeable future because of a shortage of necessary materials. The greatest shortages are those of switches, ties, gas and water pipes and cable of all kinds.
2. In order to relieve the shortage of railroad ties, a plant for the production of special concrete ties (Beton-Spannschwellen) is to be erected as quickly as possible in Rehfish, Mecklenburg. However, construction is not progressing because of the lack of material and specialized workers. The plant is to fill the tie requirements for all of East Germany. The safety of the lines in East Germany, aside from the main lines to the East, is endangered because of the poor condition of the ties.
3. The most important railroad construction project is a switch installation (Weichenwerk) which has been begun near Kirchmooser, in Brandenburg. The plant stands on the site formerly occupied by the Kirchmooser ammunition factory, near the Reichsbahn repair plant.
4. Construction is being carried out on a first priority basis at the new transit switching yard in Frankfurt/Oder on a building 70 meters wide which is to house Soviet railroad personnel. Right next to this building a new signalling device (Stellwerk) is being built for the transit station.

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